

JOHN MCCAIN  
ARIZONA

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,  
SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0303  
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SUITE B-130  
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(602) 952-2410

450 WEST PASEO REDONDO  
SUITE 200  
TUCSON, AZ 85701  
(520) 670-6334

TELEPHONE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED  
(202) 224-7132  
(602) 952-0170

# United States Senate

ARIZONA STATE OFFICE  
BUREAU OF LAND MGMT

NOV-5 '99

October 28, 1999

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GENERAL FILES	
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ACTION	

Mr. Gary Bauer  
Acting Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
222 N. Central Ave  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2203

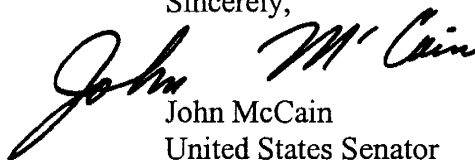
Dear Gary:

I wish to bring to your attention the matter concerning my constituent, Ex. 6 who has encountered a problem with alleged cattle fraud. Please investigate, within the existing rules, regulations and ethical guidelines, the statements made in the enclosed letter and return the response to me with the enclosures. MARK ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Attn: RAJAN BHAVNANI  
Office of Senator John McCain  
450 W. Paseo Redondo  
Suite 200  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

The response you provide will be most appreciated and will be forwarded to my constituent. If you should have any questions in the meantime, you can reach my office at (520) 670-6334. I look forward to your reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

  
John McCain  
United States Senator

JM/trb  
Enclosures

OCT 15 1999

Ex. 6

101299

Ex. 6

The Honorable Senator John McCain  
2400 East Arizona Biltmore Circle #1150  
Phoenix, Az. 85016

Sir:

My name is [redacted] and I wrote to the Governor of this state and the "buck" was passed to you.

I wrote to Governor Hall about some of these ranchers in my area and was ~~informed~~ informed that this was a problem for the Federal Government and not the State. Since the problem is within the State I feel that the State could do something for the land owners who far outnumber the ranchers now.

So I won't take up too much of your time I will get right to the point.

The worst rancher in our area is [redacted]. I have the records from his grazing permits from 1992 to present showing that he has paid for between 180 and 225 head of cattle. He runs anywhere from 10 to 20 times this many cattle. I have complained to BLM in Kingman and was informed that [redacted]

is an "Honest Rancher" and they go by his count on the cattle. When I wrote to Phoenix BLM it was referred back to Kingman. When I wrote to BLM in Washington D.C. it was ~~not~~ referred back to Kingman. So going to BLM has been a waste of time. The only thing that I have gotten out of this is to have gun fire thru my house. It took 3 weeks to get a Mohave County Deputy to take the report and another 6 weeks to get it turned in. I was also told by Deputy Ex. 6 who took the report "that if ~~I was~~ Ex. 6 were having trouble with Ex. 6 that I should move." I own this land and now one is going to force me to move. I put up with outdated laws like having to fence my property to keep someone's cattle off my land.

Also we don't have a large number of catus in the area but Ex. 6 got a permit to harvest catus off 450 ~~acres~~ <sup>acres</sup> that he owns and he was able to take 138 semi-trucks loads out.

I'm sorry to take up so much of your time and hope that you can help in some way.

Thank-you in advance  
Ex. 6



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Arizona State Office  
222 North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2203

In reply refer to:

1781/4100 (932)

November 23, 1999

Honorable John McCain  
United States Senate  
450 West Paseo Redondo  
Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Senator McCain:

This letter is in response to a letter you received from **Ex. 6** who encountered alleged cattle fraud on public lands within the Kingman Field Office. The Kingman Field Office has investigated the statements made in **Ex. 6** letter, and we offer the following information.

**Ex. 6**, livestock grazing permittee, is licensed for 161 cattle on the Fort McEwen allotment. **Ex. 6** lives in an area of mixed or checker board land ownership, with alternate sections of private and public land within the grazing allotment. On March 9, 1998, **Ex. 6** Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Range Management Specialist, completed an inspection of all three of **Ex. 6** grazing allotments. All of the allotments were found to be in compliance with the permitted numbers of livestock use. Vegetation utilization studies conducted during 1997, 1998, and 1999 also indicate that levels of use are well within the allowable limits. **Ex. 6** is welcome to review the data from these study sites at the Kingman Field Office.

The Kingman Field Office has not received any previous correspondence from **Ex. 6** regarding cattle grazing activities within the Fort McEwen Allotment. On March 17, 1998, Kingman Field Office responded to a complaint from **Ex. 6** to Mohave County Supervisor, **Ex. 6** regarding conflicts between **Ex. 6** and **Ex. 6** cattle. Two employees from Kingman Field Office and a representative for **Ex. 6** met with **Ex. 6** to view an area that **Ex. 6** described as overgrazing on the allotment. The area inspected during the field visit had been burned by a wild fire the previous year. Field Office personnel explained to **Ex. 6** that the BLM allows for a rest and recovery period for the vegetation and soils following a fire, and based on the range site and potential for this area, that the current vegetation was appropriate for the site. **Ex. 6** seemed to be satisfied with this explanation.

Field Office personnel also went to **Ex. 6** home and property following the field visit, where he stated that livestock had caused property damage. We explained the State law, which requires that a property owner install a legal fence before the owner can collect damages caused

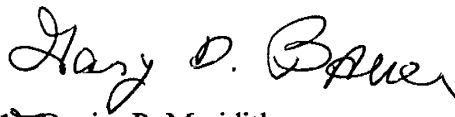
by livestock. In addition, the land developer who sold Ex. 6 his property had retained grazing privileges, so Ex. 6 only recourse to keep livestock off his land was to fence his private land. Ex. 6 showed us a fence he had constructed. The fence did not meet the State's specifications for a legal fence. The Kingman Field Office provided Ex. 6 with a copy of the fence requirements.

BLM is unaware of Ex. 6 allegations regarding the Mohave County Sheriff's Office. On February 23, 1998, BLM participated in a public meeting among property owners in the area with the Sheriff's Office, Supervisor Ex. 6 Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the Mohave County Attorney's office to discuss complaints regarding feral dogs, livestock grazing, and Ex. 6 relations with property owners. The Sheriff's Office is the appropriate contact for a response to this complaint. Their telephone number is (520) 767-3366.

Regarding the vegetation harvest activity, in Spring 1999, BLM responded to a complaint from another party about cactus theft in this area. Our law enforcement officer investigated and discovered that the yucca was being harvested from private lands, not from public land. Yucca is harvested for its use in the pharmaceutical and agricultural industries. The State of Arizona regulates the transportation of this plant. BLM has no authority over vegetation harvest on private lands.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

  
for Denise P. Meridith  
State Director

cc: Your Washington Office